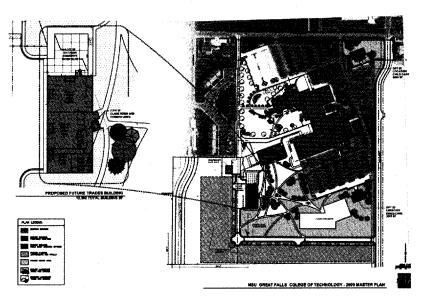
# MSU-GREAT FALLS SKILLED TRADES BUILDING II ENERGY, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIAL TRADES

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The MSU-Great Falls Skills Trades Building II will be constructed and programmed in response to, and alignment with, the economic development strategies for the Greater Great Falls community. In order to develop the region's economy. efforts are being employed to create jobs through the expansion of existing. and the attraction of new businesses in the energy, agriculture processing, manufacturing, and industrial fields. A skilled workforce will play a critical role in the ability to capitalize on these economic opportunities that are unique to the region, and this facility will play a critical role in developing that workforce.



MSU-Great Falls Campus Master Plan illustrating placement of the Trades Building on campus grounds.

### THE NEED

MSU-Great Falls serves as the community college for the Greater Great Falls area. The College therefore aligns its programming in response to the needs of the community it serves. As an integral partner in the economic development efforts of the region, MSU-Great Falls has been an active participant in the development of the strategic plans for numerous community organizations such as the Great Falls Development Authority (GFDA) and the Greater Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. Naturally, the operations of the College have been influenced by these plans and their accompanying strategies.

In 2009, Cascade County on behalf of the Sweetgrass Region economic development partners, conducted a Regional Economic Diversification Project [continued on other side]



## THE NEED (CONTINUED)

(project results located at http://www.gfdevelopment.org/pages/p43/diversification\_project\_.php). This project was funded in part by the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), a field office for the Secretary of Defense, as a result of the loss of the 564th Missile Squadron from Malmstrom AFB. The project outcomes have provided strategies for economic diversification that will benefit the five counties of Montana's Sweetgrass Economic Development Region – Cascade, Glacier, Pondera, Teton and Toole. The results of this study identified this region held competitive advantages for the expansion and attraction of businesses in the areas of energy development, agriculture processing, niche manufacturing, and industrial-related activities.

